



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034

In Reply Refer to:

191C-L7615-FFY02-008

Dear Friends of Everglades National Park:

Enclosed is an Environmental Assessment that details the National Park Service proposal to improve the wastewater treatment and effluent disposal system at Headquarters and Pine Island, Everglades National Park, Miami-Dade County, Florida.

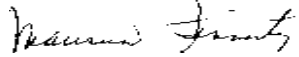
Two alternatives are discussed.

- 1) The no action alternative which would maintain the status quo of the present individual septic systems that serve the Flamingo developed area; and,
- 2) The preferred alternative in which the National Park Service proposes to install a new centralized wastewater treatment facility and new wastewater collection/transmission system throughout the Pine Island developed area, with the construction of raised infiltration beds for effluent disposal. This project would be designed to meet present and future State of Florida wastewater standards.

Two public workshops will be held on June 25, 2003. The first will be held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Superintendent's Conference Room in the park's headquarters. The second will be held from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Florida City Council Chambers, 404 West Palm Drive, Florida City. Members of the public are encouraged to attend at any time during either of the two-hour meetings. The workshop format will include informal interaction, exhibits, and opportunities to make written and verbal comments. No presentations are scheduled. Park staff will be on hand to discuss the EA and answer questions.

We are providing this document for public review and comment. The public comment period closes on July 28, 2003. If you wish to comment on the environmental assessment, you may mail comments to the name and address below. Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review during regular business hours. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from the record, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. There also may be circumstances in which we would withhold from the record a respondent's identity, as allowable by law. **If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment.** We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public inspection in their entirety.

Please address your comments to:
Superintendent, Everglades National Park
40001 State Road 9336
Homestead, Florida 33034-6733
Attn: Project 191A

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maureen Finnerty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maureen Finnerty
Superintendent

Enclosure